



*Martin O'Malley, Governor
Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor
John R. Griffin, Secretary
Joseph P. Gill, Deputy Secretary*

Date: March 30, 2012

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

To: MD DNR Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission

From: Martin Gary, MD DNR Fisheries Service

Subject: Background Information for SFAC Fisheries Annual Budget Report Work Group

A. Statutory Reporting Requirements of Maryland DNR Fisheries Service:

Natural Resources Article § 4-745 pertains only to Chesapeake Bay and Coastal Sport License revenues and contains the following language that describes MD DNR's statutory requirements for reporting:

Specifically, the language regarding reporting revenues and expenditures is as follows:

4) (i) Except as provided in subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, all fees collected on behalf of the Department pursuant to this section shall be remitted to the Department in accordance with its rules and regulations for deposit with the State Treasurer to the credit of the Fisheries Research and Development Fund to be used for the replenishment, protection, and conservation of fish stocks caught by recreational fishermen, for enhancement of recreational fishing opportunities, and for research concerning tidal fishery resources. The Department shall publicly report annually the amounts collected and the expenditures.

(ii) In fiscal year 1999 and in each subsequent fiscal year, the Department, for the purposes set forth in subparagraph (iii) of this paragraph, shall use:

1. \$2 from the sale of each license under subsection (a) of this section;
2. \$20 from the sale of each license under subsection (d)(2) of this section; and
3. \$225 of the special charter boat license under subsection (d)(1) of this section.

(iii) The Department shall use the moneys specified in subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph for:

1. Achieving the maximum federal fund apportionments;
2. Management assessment and sport fishing surveys; and
3. Angler outreach and public fishing information.

(5) In the preparation of plans for the expenditure of license receipts, the Secretary annually shall solicit the advice and opinions of the Department's Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission, representative fishing and boating associations, and other interested parties.

The full NR article can be found at:

http://mlis.state.md.us/asp/statutes_respond.asp?article=gnr§ion=4-745&Extension=HTML

§ 4-604 provides that the Department must report revenues and expenditures publicly.

(3) (i) All fees collected by the Department under this section may only be used in accordance with § 4-208 of this title.

(ii) The Department shall publicly report annually the amounts collected and the expenditures under this section.

*Please see attachment for specific language for Natural Resources Article 4-208 (Fisheries Management & Protection Fund) and Natural Resources Article 4-209 (Fisheries Research & Development Fund)

B. Summary of DNR Units Reporting:

MD DNR Fisheries Service: *Historically (1980s-mid 1990s), MD DNR Tidewater Administration had annually presented general information on licenses sold and corresponding revenues, along with expenditures to general sectors such as hatcheries, stock assessment, access, outreach etc.. Modern day Fisheries Service (1996-current) has periodically provided data on license sales and expenditures. The last report was issued in November of 2007 (see attachment).

*(Personal Communication with Howard King)

MD DNR Wildlife and Natural Heritage Service: MD DNR W&HS provides annually a general update to the MD DNR Wildlife Advisory Commission on revenues accrued through license sales, grants and other sources, along with general category expenditures. They have provided the same information in the past in DNR's annual hunting guidebook, but not every year.

MD DNR Boating Services: MD DNR BS does not provide a report on revenues accrued and expenditures. The BS website does have information on expenditures for projects funded through DNR's Waterway Improvement Fund with revenues from a 5% excise tax associated with the titling of the purchase of new vessels on their website:

<http://dnr.maryland.gov/boating/>

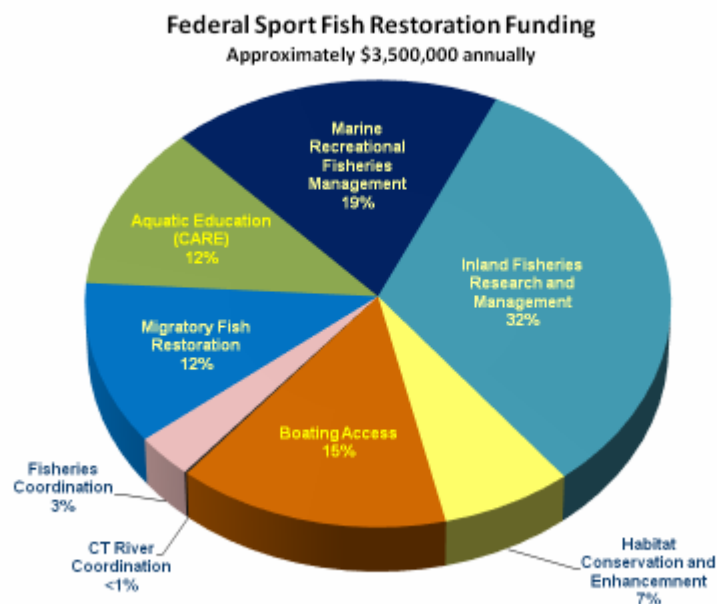
C. Summary of other States Reporting

Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources: Alabama does not publish budget reports for the Fisheries Section or Wildlife Section.

Alaska Department of Fish & Game: Provides to the public:

1. One short statement on the license homepage: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=license.main>
Buy your licenses & tags online now or through one of 1100 license vendors in Alaska. Online purchasing is fast and will maximize your contribution. When you buy a license, tag, or permit, the money you spend directly supports the management and conservation of Alaska's fish and wildlife. (Learn more about licenses and tags.) Thank you for your purchase!
2. A link to a webpage that provides license statistics and sales:
<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=license.statistics>
3. The most recent division strategic plan, we have a page with some info how they **spend** their money by core function (pg 8): <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/fishing/PDFs/sport/StrategicPlan2010Final.pdf>
4. On the "About Us" pages for the department, we have a "Budgets & Performance" page:
<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=about.budgets> It has info on our budgets (some of them link to other state webpages).

Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection: Has placed budget information for the first time in the most recent fishing guide (below with narrative from their director). This has not been an annual process however.



Anglers,

I would like to personally thank you for supporting our conservation programs in Connecticut through your purchase of a fishing license. All of the revenues generated from the sale of fishing and hunting licenses are used to directly support our fish and wildlife programs. In fact, license revenues provide approximately 50% of the total funding for these programs. The second major source of funding for fish and wildlife programs is derived from taxes that you pay on fishing, hunting, shooting sports equipment, and motorboat fuel. This year you may hear a lot about this source, as we mark the 75th year anniversary of the Federal Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program. The Wildlife Restoration Act of 1937 (PR) and the Sport Fish Restoration Act (DJ) of 1950 rank among the world's most successful fish and wildlife restoration programs. Together these acts have contributed more than \$14 billion to fish and wildlife conservation in the United States – more than any other single conservation effort. The United States Fish & Wildlife Service distributes the PR and DJ funds to state fish and wildlife agencies. Funds are distributed to the state based primarily on land and water area and the number of hunting and fishing licenses sold, and are contingent on the state preparing high quality project proposals. The state agencies then use these funds and your license fees for the conservation, management and enhancement of fish and wildlife and their habitats and for the creation of fish and wildlife recreational opportunities. License revenue and user taxes are two of the primary sources of funding for conservation, providing the foundation of what is commonly known as the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation. It's a "user pay - everyone benefit" program wherein Connecticut sportsmen contribute 80% of the funding for our Bureau of Natural Resources programs. DEEP currently receives approximately 3.5 million dollars annually in federal Sport Fish Restoration funding. Please see the pie chart below for how these funds are distributed among our fisheries programs. Thank you again for your ongoing support and have a safe and successful 2012 fishing season.

Good luck & good fishing in 2012,

William A. Hyatt

Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission: Florida has several approaches. The most in-depth piece is the "[Programs of FWC](#)." Recently they have done only a very small print run of this and use the website as the major communications vehicle for this. Also the [Budget](#) information is available through [TransparencyFlorida](#), MyFlorida.com and the Governor's websites. [The Office of Policy, Planning and Government](#) (you may need to scroll) provides information in still another format. We also periodically print more focused brochures, such as the "Value –Returned" freshwater fishing brochure (handout), which will be updated as soon as the 2011 National Survey information is released.

Georgia Department of Natural Resources: At the state level, there are various documents that outline each Georgia state department's budget. One of the best sources for state level documents is the Governor's budget reports that can be found at:

http://opb.georgia.gov/00/channel_modifieddate/0,2096,161890977_162456072,00.html

The Georgia WRD Fisheries Section produces annual reports that are available upon request. An example is attached. Also, from time to time WRD produces brochures like the one attached that describe all WRD programs.

Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources: Provides big-picture expenditure & revenue figures (pie charts) in our hunting & fishing guides:

<http://fw.ky.gov/pdf/deerguide1112intro.pdf>

More detailed info is provided upon request

Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries: Budget information not available on website.

Massachusetts's Division of Marine Fisheries: No budget information listed on the website

Maine Department of Marine Resources: No listed web resource for fisheries annual report. DMR 2011 program review does have some basic budget information.

<http://www.maine.gov/dmr/news/dmrreview9-2-11.pdf>

Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks: No information on budgets on their website. Commission meetings appear to have monthly reports of license sales. And opening prayers.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources: Minnesota has what is known as the BOC - Citizen's Budget Oversight Committee. They review and report out to the legislature on the Game and Fish Fund budget and expenditures. Their statutory authority and their work can be found here:

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/gamefishoversight/index.html>

Missouri Department of Conservation: Has the following available on our public website:

<http://mdc.mo.gov/permits/permit-sales-reports>

They also have our annual reports available online:

<http://mdc.mo.gov/about-us/get-know-us/annual-reports>

Every January, there is a 4-page summary of accomplishments and information about the budget. It is mailed in the free magazine to about 500,000 households. It is available online and in PDF format on the Department's Web page.

See the most recent at:

http://mdc.mo.gov/conmag/2012/01/fiscal-year-2009-2010-annual-report-summary?page=0,0&citrix_ns_id_mdc_mo_gov_%2Fwlf=ZXhjaGFuZ2Vjb29raWVf%3FM%202FySelMNahxiZYmaFJ%20bDtRSwA%26

And the magazine PDF is at: <http://mdc.mo.gov/sites/default/files/magazine/2011/12/20120101.pdf>

New Hampshire Fish & Game: Does have funding information listed on their website

http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/Inside_FandG/funding.htm

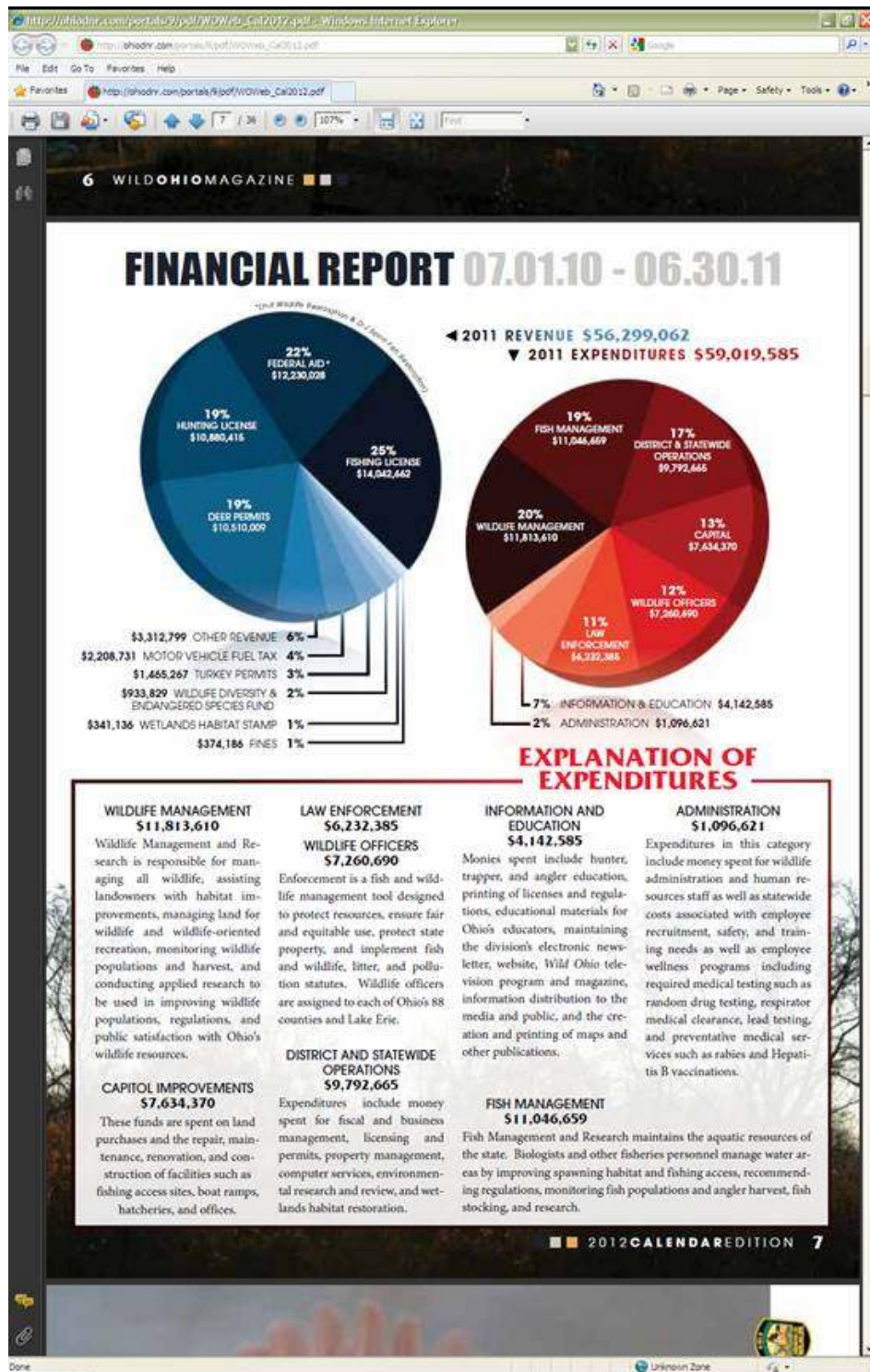
http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/Inside_FandG/pie_charts.htm

New York Department of Environmental Concern: New York provides a very general description of where funding comes from, and where the money goes in their fishing and hunting regulations guide. This can be viewed on page 80 at:

<http://www.eregulations.com/newyork/fishing/pageFlip/>

Expenditures from the State's Conservation Fund, a dedicated fund that can only be used for the management and protection of fish and wildlife resources, are overseen by the Conservation Fund Advisory Board (CFAB). Each year they are required to produce a report to advise the DEC Commissioner regarding the CFAB's assessment of the extent to which expenditures and appropriations from the Conservation Fund are consistent with the requirements of state law. These reports are made available to the public at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/about/62450.html>

Ohio Department of Wildlife & Fisheries: Reports financials in the November / December issue of Wild Ohio, Ohio's state agency magazine. The page is very basic. If someone asks for this information we can provide them a pdf of this page or print out the page and send it in the mail. We have had this information on a webpage in the past, but I could not find it quickly.



Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation: publishes an annual report:

<http://www.wildlifedepartment.com/aboutodwc/AnnualReport.pdf>

They also run this in their magazine, and print an over run of the inserts for people who want copies of the report. And, it is on their web site as well.

Oregon Fish & Wildlife: Extensive budget information, including archived budgets.

<http://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/budget/>

Texas Parks and Wildlife:

http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/publications/pwdpubs/media/pwd_bk_e0100_003_01_08.pdf

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife: Has extensive budget information available on their website:

<http://wdfw.wa.gov/about/budget/>

<http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/01344/wdfw01344.pdf>

http://wdfw.wa.gov/about/legislative/fact_sheets/2010_facing_future.pdf

<http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00570/wdfw00570.pdf>